

## STOP CODDLING CRIMINALS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I thought I heard it all. Richard Allen Davis, the murderer of 12-year-old Polly Klaas, now says, yes, I killed her. I admit I killed her, but I did not rape her.

Check this out. Davis abducted 12-year-old Polly Klaas from her own home. She was later found with her miniskirt above her waist and her skull completely separated from her body. Now Davis is ready to admit the murder, but he said "I didn't rape her."

Only as a ploy to avoid the death penalty, Mr. Speaker. Unbelievable. Davis should not live to see the month of May. And I say instead of free health care for Davis, free television for Davis, free food for Davis, Davis should only get one thing free from the American taxpayers: 50,000 volts.

And it is time for Congress to stop murdering our country by coddling criminals and letting the Constitution's amendments be used to get around the death penalty.

## HOW TO DO THE RIGHT THING

(Mr. BAKER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, I could not agree more with the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT]. That tragedy occurred in California; the trial has gone on long enough. Let us commence the execution.

Mr. Speaker, the American people inherently know that the Federal Government has no problem spending money. This Government has created a \$5 trillion national debt, which will be paid off by our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. It has created a bureaucracy so large that almost every aspect of your life is somehow touched by it, either through regulation or through taxation.

Since the Republicans took over Congress, we may not have done everything we want to accomplish, but we have done one thing very important: We have changed the debate. It is not whether we should do the right thing, it is how to do the right thing.

For 40 years Congress has been dominated by the liberal impulse to spend more and tax more. Hopefully that philosophy has been laid to rest. The Republicans will continue to fight for the kind of change demanded by the American people in the 1994 elections, because it is wrong to steal from our children and our grandchildren, no matter how compassionate it might be.

Mr. Speaker, let us kill the tax-and-spend philosophy, the minimum wage philosophy, to spend through regulation.

## TIME TO RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, you just heard it and the American people heard it. The Republicans are talking a lot about working families, but it is time that they did more than just talk about it. It is time they decided to actually raise the minimum wage.

Seventy percent of Americans believe that the minimum wage must be increased. Now at least 20 Republicans are backing the increase in the minimum wage. It is time, Mr. Speaker, that we bring this to a vote.

Yesterday the Democrats on our Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities asked our chairman of the committee to hold hearings on the minimum wage. Democrats understand that the purchasing power of the minimum wage will soon be the lowest it has been in 40 years.

American families are working hard to get ahead, but it is tough to get by when working full-time does not even pay to get off welfare. An increase of \$0.90 means an additional \$1,800 a year in the pockets of full-time workers.

Republicans have an opportunity to join us in helping America's working families. It is time to pass the minimum wage increase bipartisanship.

## AMERICANS DESERVE TAX RELIEF

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, for nearly 4 years now Bill Clinton has promised a middle-class tax cut. He promised a tax cut in the presidential campaign and he throws the words "tax cut" around at opportune times. But his actions speak louder than his words.

By a single vote, Bill Clinton rammed through the last Congress the largest tax increase in history. Then, earlier this week, 88 percent of his party opposed requiring a two-thirds supermajority to raise taxes. Increasing taxes on hardworking Americans should be as difficult as completing the tax forms.

What really gets me about Bill Clinton's veto of tax relief is that taxes not only hit Americans in the wallet, but also in the home and family. The current tax system makes Americans work harder, take second jobs, and put in longer hours just to meet their tax burden. Not only is the Government taking Americans' money, it is essentially taking the precious time they would normally spend playing with their children, going to PTA or church functions, or volunteering in their communities. Higher taxes have become a tax on free time too.

## ALLOW VOTE TO RAISE MINIMUM WAGE

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the House Republican leadership continues to pursue policies that hurt America's working families.

Just look at their continued opposition to the minimum wage. Even though the typical minimum wage worker is a woman in her twenties who is often the sole wage earner in the family, the House Republican leadership continues to dig in its heels in opposition to raising the minimum wage by a mere 90 cents from its 40-year low.

The fourth-ranking House Republican said yesterday that raising the minimum wage "is horrible economic policy." And the Republican majority leader says he would fight the minimum wage, "with every fiber of my being."

But despite their rock-like resistance, the Republican leadership can no longer duck voting to increase the minimum wage.

Stop toying with the lives of America's hard working families. Let us have a vote to raise the minimum wage.

## STRANGE COMPASSION

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, with middle-class families paying 38 to 44 percent of family income in taxes, the claim that the era of big Government is over is utterly absurd. Think about it: 38 to 44 percent of middle-class family income goes to taxes. That means that the purpose of the second job in the household is to pay for taxes, which means you may think that your spouse is a computer operator or real estate agent or insurance agent or whatever, but the truth is your spouse is a government employee, working for the Government simply to pay taxes.

It got worse in 1993, when the President increased the gas tax 4 cents a gallon, increased Social Security tax, and increased taxes on small business. The Republican plan tried to counter this with a \$500 per child tax credit, an adoption tax credit, and a senior dependent tax credit. But the President vetoed that.

Think about this: We have got a Democrat Party who is telling the American people, "We are compassionate because we want you to get 90 cents more an hour, but we are against the \$500 per child tax credit offered by the Republican Party."

That is real compassion, comrades, real compassion.

## THE NRA; AN ORGANIZATION WITH NO SHAME

(Mr. SCHUMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1